per Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. Therefore, it is the duty of State Government to provide housing for its police personnel. However, under the Modernization of Police Force Scheme, Central Government provides assistance to States for items which include housing for upper and lower subordinates. It is expected that the Scheme should achieve housing satisfaction level of 70% for these categories by 2010.

For Central Para Military Forces personnel family accommodation to the extent of 25% of the strength of the forces is to be achieved. Remaining personnel are to be provided barrack or other alternative accommodation.

Tracking of naxalites by use of Satellites

1565. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to track naxalites and their camps in remote jungles with the Satellites;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some naxalite groups are helped by Government officials; and

(d) if so, what are the steps taken to control it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The naxal affected States have their action plans to undertake the anti-naxalite operations and they execute these as per the requirements of the ground situation.

(c) and (d) No such report has come to the notice of the Government.

Demand for separate Cooch Behar State

1566. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in the northern part of West Bengal, especially in Cooch Behar, some people in the name of Greater Cooch Behar People's Association are demanding a separate "Greater Cooch Behar" State;

(b) whether they have submitted any demand in this regard to the Union Government;

(c) if so, what are their main demands and arguments; and

(d) what is the Centre's response to the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main demands and arguments of the Greater Cooch Behar People's Association are (i) Merger of erstwhile Cooch Behar State with West Bengal from 1.1.1950 is illegal and unconstitutional, (ii) Formation of Greater Cooch Behar State comprising the Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, North and South Dinajpur, districts of West Bengal and undivided Goalpara district of Assam, (iii) Election to Legislative Assembly should not be held in Cooch Behar, since the merger of Cooch Behar in the State of West Bengal is illegal, (iv) Implement the promises made in the merger agreement between the Maharaja of Cooch Behar and the Government of India, and (v) Form a caretaker Ministry immediately for administration of Cooch Behar.

(d) The Government has examined the demands. It appears that there is nothing illegal or unconstitutional in the Instrument of Accession or the Merger Agreement, signed by the Maharaja of Cooch Behar in accordance with the Indian Independence Act, 1947 read with the relevant provision of the Government of India Act, 1935. The merger of the State of Cooch Behar with West Bengal from 1.1.1950 under the States Merger (West Bengal) Order 1949 also appears to be legal and valid. Further, no other issue in the Merger Agreement remains unimplemented. However, the present dissatisfaction seems to emanate from the economic backwardness of the people of Cooch Behar. Union Government has requested the State Government to take measures to address the issue of economic backwardness of the area, both in the long term and in the short term.

Human rights situation in States

1567. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that human rights situation continues to be grim;